

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 11767 070219Z

63

ACTION SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO NIACT IMMEDIATE

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UNCLAS MANILA 11767

TOKYO PLEASE DELIVER TO S/S BRODY DURING TRANSIT.

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, RP, US

SUBJ: DEPSEC ROBINSON VISIT: DEPARTURE REMARKS AND Q. AND A.

FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT FROM TAPE OF DEPUTY SECRETARY'S
REMARKS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE AT MANILA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
AUGUST 7. BEGIN TEXT. "WELL, I'VE BEEN VERY PLEASED TO
BE ABLE TO VISIT THE PHILIPPINES AFTER SOME 32 YEARS SINCE
MY FIRST EXPERIENCE IN SAMAR AND TACLOBAN. I'VE BEEN HERE
REPRESENTING SECRETARY KISSINGER WHO IS VERY DISAPPOINTED
THAT HE WAS UNABLE TO VISIT THE PHILIPPINES AT THIS TIME.
I MET WITH PRESIDENT MARCOS AND OTHER HIGH OFFICIALS OF
THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT. WE HAD A WIDE-RANGING DISCUSSION
OF THE MANY MATTERS THAT ARE OF MUTUAL CONCERN TO OUR TWO
COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE STATUS OF OUR NEGOTIATIONS ON
MILITARY BASES. THE DISCUSSIONS TOOK PLACE IN A VERY
VERY FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE. IT WAS A FRANK AND CORDIAL
EXCHANGE OF VIEWS. I GAINED A GREAT DEAL FROM THE OPPOR-
TUNITY TO DISCUSS THESE MATTERS AND A MUCH BETTER UNDER-
STANDING OF THE NEEDS AND THE INTERESTS OF YOUR COUNTRY,
AND I BELIEVE WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO PROVIDE YOUR GOVERN-
MENT REPRESENTATIVES WITH A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF SOME
OF THE INTERESTS AND NEEDS OF OUR COUNTRY. IT IS CLEAR
THAT WE HAVE COMMON INTERESTS, THAT WE HAVE A MUTUAL
DESIRE TO FIND WAYS IN WHICH WE CAN WORK TOGETHER IN A
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PAGE 02 MANILA 11767 070219Z

COOPERATIVE AND FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE TO SERVE OUR MUTUAL

NEEDS AND GOALS. I'M DELIGHTED TO HAVE BEEN HERE, I'M SORRY THAT IT HAS BEEN SUCH A SHORT STAY AND I LOOK FORWARD TO COMING BACK AGAIN IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE."

Q: WHERE ARE YOU PROCEEDING AFTER THIS?

R: I'M GOING DIRECTLY BACK TO THE UNITED STATES AND TO WASHINGTON.

Q. ANY INDICATION WHEN THE BASE TALKS WOULD BE FINISHED?

R. WELL, A GREAT DEAL OF PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE BY OUR NEGOTIATORS AND THERE ARE MANY ISSUES THAT HAVE BEEN RESOLVED. THERE ARE OTHERS THAT WE ARE STILL DISCUSSING AND I'M OPTIMISTIC. BUT, OF COURSE, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PREDICT ANY KIND OF A TIME SCHEDULE. I HOPE IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE, THOUGH, THAT WE WILL REACH SATISFACTORY AGREEMENT.

Q: IS SECRETARY KISSINGER COMING OVER WHEN THE TALKS WILL BE THROUGH TO SIGN ANY AGREEMENT, IF AT ALL?

R: WELL, SECRETARY KISSINGER'S SCHEDULE IS VERY INDEFINITE BECAUSE OF THE GREAT PRESSURE ON HIM TO DEAL WITH WORLD PROBLEMS BUT I KNOW THAT HE VERY MUCH HOPES TO COME TO THE PHILIPPINES AND JUST AS SOON AS HE KNOWS WHAT HIS SCHEDULE WILL BE AND IF HE CAN POSSIBLY ARRANGE IT, I KNOW THAT HE WOULD BE HERE." END TEXT.
SULLIVAN

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